

### **REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Claims 1-17 were pending prior to this Amendment.

The Examiner objected to the drawings in that there is no mention of element 311 in the specification. In lieu of changing the drawings, Applicants have amended paragraph 26 to properly refer to the voltage source shown in Fig. 1. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

Claim 15 was objected to because the specification “does not reasonably provide enablement for determining if the head is defective.” Applicants contend that there are several examples given in the application as filed as to defects in a head/slider. Nonetheless, claim 15 has been amended to use the language of the specification. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claim 15 is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 7-8, 9-11 and 13-17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,359,746 to Kakekado (“Kakekado”). Claims 6 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being unpatentable over Kakekado in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,329,409 to Hampshire (“Hampshire”). As to claim 1, the Office Action cites Col. 7 lines 19-21 and 23-37 as support for showing the recited current measurement device. A review of this section reveals that a voltage application means is provided to apply voltage so as to control the voltage potential difference between the magnetic disk and the magnetic head slider. Though current and voltage can be directly proportional, a voltage application means cannot be considered a current measurement device. It is noted that Figs. 15 and 21-22 all refer to a voltage generating circuit 108 as an example of the voltage application means. The text cited in the Office Action also refers to a “detection means.” As seen in Col. 7, the detection means includes

an acceleration detector and some sort of detection for the roughness of the magnetic disk.

Nowhere in Kakekado does it suggest that such detection means would be a current measurement device or a voltage measurement device. Each of the independent claims include a current measurement device or the use of one. Hampshire does not make up for the deficiencies of Kakekado in that Hampshire is concerned with compensating for offset in the actuator current of the servo system of a disc drive. Hampshire discloses the sensing of actuator current and has nothing at all to do with sensing current between a head and a storage medium as recited in the claims. In view of the above reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-17 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

The Applicants respectfully submit that this application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4255 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,  
KENYON & KENYON

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By: \_\_\_\_\_



Shawn W. O'Dowd  
Reg. No. 34,687

KENYON & KENYON  
1500 K Street, NW  
Suite 700  
Washington, DC 20005  
(202) 220-4200 telephone  
(202) 220-4201 facsimile  
DC1-589090